

Application No. 10/616,055

B. REMARKS

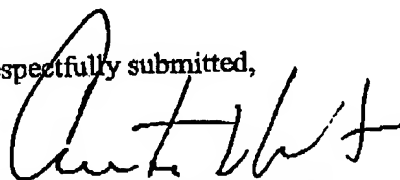
In response to the Restriction Requirement, claims 1-69 are pending. The Restriction Requirement specified a species election between albumin and hyaluronic acid and also between a hydrogel comprising a hydrophobic liquid and a hydrogel comprising a gas. In response, albumin and hydrogel comprising a gas (reading on claims 1-8, 11, 13, 15-23, 25, 28-31, 36-41, 44-58, and 61-69) are elected with traverse on the grounds that the choices offered for election do not afford the Applicant the opportunity to presently prosecute certain claims, specifically claim 14 and the like.

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to permit the present election of the species of claim 14 and a hydrogel comprising a gas. Accordingly, examination of claims that read on the proposed election is requested, with those claims being 1-5, 11-31, and 34-69. Examination of unelected claims is requested upon allowance of a generic claim that encompasses the unelected species.

Claims that read on the proposed species are made only to facilitate Patent Office administrative procedures and are not admissions with respect to the scope of the claims.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



Curtis B. Herbert, Ph.D., Esq.
Registration No. 45,443

Customer No. 62274
Dardi & Associates, PLLC
US Bank Plaza, Suite 2000
220 South 6th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Telephone: (612) 605-1038